

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

### FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2017

- WHEREAS, Maryland is home to an estimated 874,401 citizens over the age of 65, comprising 14.6 percent of our state's population in 2016; and
- WHEREAS, It is estimated that across the country one-third of people over the age of 65, and half over the age of 80 will fall each year; and
- WHEREAS, Between 2010-2015, the age-adjusted death rate due to falls among older adults age 65 years and older in Maryland increased from 51.7 per 100,000 to 63.6 per 100,000, a 1.2-fold increase. The number of deaths increased from 377 to 525; and
- WHEREAS, Of the injury mechanisms examined, falls were the leading cause of injury-related deaths among Marylanders over the age of 65 in 2015; and
- WHEREAS, Injuries from falls are largely preventable; and
- WHEREAS, The quality of life is improved for Maryland citizens who remain independent, active, and free from fall-related injuries.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim September 17 - 23, 2017 as FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK in Maryland, and do call upon all citizens to join in supporting this observance.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 17th day of September  
Two Thousand and seventeen

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Robert H. Lutherford*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. W. W. W.*  
Secretary of State